



# THE ROYALIST

BY WILLIAM WESTALL

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## CHAPTER VI

I had not gone many yards down the Rue de la Victoire when an arm was thrust within mine.

"You are departing early, Citizen Roy, and you were not looking very happy a little while ago. What has arrived?" asked the aide-de-camp.

"As I had nothing to conceal, I told Lacluse all that had passed.

"It is very unfortunate," he said. "De Gex might as well have accepted this commission. We soldiers fight for France, and for France alone. Governments are an accident; they are here to-day and gone to-morrow. And the dictatorial won't last. However, the die is cast. There is nothing more to be done. By refusing Bonaparte's offer De Gex has made an enemy who neither forgets nor forgives."

"Then De Gex is going to be shot merely for offending Bonaparte?"

"I did not say that; but you can draw your own conclusions. I am afraid you also have offended him."

"Why? How could I know that De Gex would refuse an offer which gave him his life?"

"But the general will say that you ought to have known. He may even imagine that De Gex has placed you in communication with some of his royalist friends and that you are in sympathy with them. The best thing you can do is to keep out of his way for a few days."

This was my own opinion. If I had lost his favor because De Gex had refused his offer of a commission in the



MANAGED TO FIND MY WAY

army, what would he say when I declined his offer of a commission in the navy? And now that De Gex's fate was decided I had resolved, the next time the subject should be brought up, to refuse point-blank and without any sort of compromise. This resolution was, however, compatible with a desire to put off the evil day as long as might be. I was in no hurry to return to prison, and I meant, if possible, to get out of the country before Bonaparte called on me for a decision.

Fortunately, he had not asked for my parole, either from inadvertence or because he thought to win me over to his purpose by a show of confidence.

In any case, my respite was not likely to be long, and I behaved as if I had not. As yet, however, I could think of no feasible plan. I had no papers, and even though I might get out of Paris without them, I should certainly never reach the coast. And if I reached the coast, how was I to cross the sea? But I had not yet found the problem which called for immediate solution. It would be quite time enough to think about crossing the sea when I got there.

What between revolving plans of escape, each more impossible than the other, and thinking of how De Gex and wondering whether he had been informed of his impending fate, I passed a dream-haunted and well-nigh sleepless night.

At five o'clock I got up, dressed, sailor-fashion, in the dark, and left myself quietly out of the house. It was a small morning; fine rain was falling, the narrow streets were shiny and slippery, the lamps all gone out, lights in the windows few and far between, and if I had not been blessed with keen vision and a good eye for locality I should have lost myself before I turned the second corner. But I managed to find my way without asking questions (which might have been dangerous), and at six o'clock saw gateway before me the great Gothic gateway of the Abbaye prison.

The people inside were already astir, and I had no difficulty in obtaining admission.

I found Carmine in his office.

"You are early," he said.

"Yes, I heard last night that poor Gex was to be shot at ten this morning."

"At ten? He is to be shot as soon as it is light. The firing-party will be here at seven."

"Seven! Good heavens! But it is impossible! There is surely some mistake. Bonaparte told me distinctly that the execution would take place at ten."

"There is no mistake in my order. Here are the very words. The firing-party will be on the ground at seven o'clock. Citizen Bonaparte has been making a manœuvre plausante at your expense. It is like him."

"The malicious scoundrel! He lied to me, then," I muttered between my teeth. "Pardon, if I were my own master I would be even with him. Does Gex know?"

"Not yet. I was just going to inform him. Will you accompany me? Alas! there is no time to lose."

As we opened the door of his room, De Gex, who was sitting at his desk, raised himself on his elbow.

"Roy! Carmine! What is it?" he exclaimed. "But I need not ask. I can read my fate in your faces. When?—how soon?"

"At dawn; in about an hour," answered Carmine.

"And which is it—the ax or the guillotine?"

"Thank God! Well, I shall be ready. And with that the chevalier threw off his bedclothes and began to dress.

something. It is a cold, wet morning."

"You are right. I must not tremble, even with cold. Will you kindly send coffee for two, rolls and cognac?"

"You shall have them in ten minutes; and I will come again when all is ready."

"He is a good old fellow—Carmine," observed the chevalier, when we were alone. "You are silent, my friend; you say nothing."

"Because my heart is full; and what can I say? This is terrible. De Gex—terrible for you, and for me both a grievous disappointment and a defeat. I made sure I should succeed."

"Fortunately for me, I did not. And please remember that it is my own doing. You offered me my life, and if I did not choose to accept it that is my own affair. You acted the part of a true friend. And see, I have everything ready. Here is the letter for my mother, and here the plan of the chateau, which, with the explanation, shall enable you to find the treasure, even though the building should be in ruins."

Our conversation was interrupted for a moment by the arrival of the coffee, which De Gex mixed with cognac and leisurely drank, eating at the same time a roll, and courteously inviting me to follow his example.

Breakfast over, he added a brief postscript to the letter, of which, as also the plan of the chateau, I took possession and put inside the lining of my doublet, which I thought they should fall into the hands of the enemy, nobody would be able to make aught of either of them without the clew, and that I had in a still safer place—my head.

When I told De Gex what had happened the night before, he agreed with me in thinking that Bonaparte was the instigator of his execution, Barras being merely an instrument, though doubtless a very willing one.

"You are right; it is Bonaparte's answer to my refusal of his offer," said the chevalier. "I have been mistaken in him. He is a great captain; I thought him an honest man. Those who judge him less favorably judge him more truly. If he does restore the monarchy I much fear that himself will be the monarch. Poor France!"

Shortly afterward De Gex inquired about me. I looked at my watch. It was a quarter to seven.

"My mother is a good woman," he said. "I was brought up in the fear of God. You will not think me weak or foolish if I say a prayer?"

"I shall be glad to see you kneeling at the great clock of the Abbaye as striking the hour."

De Gex put his arms around my neck and kissed me on both cheeks.

"You have been very good to me," he said. "God bless you for it! You will stay with me to the last, and tell my mother and Antoinette."

My heart was so full that I could only press his hand and murmur an inarticulate assent; and the same moment the door opened, and Carmine, followed by two turnkeys, entered the cell, while two soldiers with fixed bayonets stood on guard without.

"I am ready. Lead on," said the chevalier.

I would have taken his arm; Carmine also offered to support him. But he kindly, yet firmly, refused us, saying that he could walk quite well alone and would rather do so.

The officer assented, and we all went into the courtyard. De Gex doffed his coat and waistcoat, and, after shaking hands with Carmine and the turnkeys and again embracing me, walked to the door of the prison, and turned back to the wall. The officer ordered his men to fall in. The chevalier folded

his arms and raised his head, and the next moment his voice rang out as loud and clear as if he were giving an order on the field of battle.

"Make ready! Present! Fire!"

The muskets went off, and De Gex fell on his face, riddled with bullets.

After a short pause the turnkeys raised the body tenderly—the chevalier had been a popular prisoner—and put it in a rule coffin. Within an hour it was laid in the ground.

I was going slowly away—my heart well-nigh bursting with impotent rage and bitter sorrow, for though I had known this man only three days I had come to love him as a brother—when I heard a broken voice speaking my name.

It was Julie Carmine, whom in my preoccupation I had not noticed.

"Oh, this is terrible!" she exclaimed, weeping. "I did not see it, but I heard the muskets. He was so gentle, this poor man. He was the best man in the Abbaye; they say he got them killed. Did I not speak truly when I said they never forgive returned emigrants?" And then, lowering her voice, for there were several people about, she added: "Meet me this evening at sunset in the Tuileries gardens. I have something very important to tell you. You are going? Au revoir, Citizen Roy. You must not leave Paris without calling upon me."

I protested that nothing was further from my thoughts, shook hands with her and her father, and went my way.

## CHAPTER VII

Julie had given me a rendezvous. To what end?

A Frenchman would have imagined that he had made a conquest. I was

less vain. That Julie had a kindly feeling for me was likely enough; yet I could not think that she meant either to propose an elopement or make me an offer of marriage; while as for myself, I need scarcely say (the poor chevalier being hardly cold in his grave) that I was in no mood for flirting or love-making.

On the other hand, why had she asked me to meet her secretly and at night, and what had she to say which also could not say equally well at her own house?

After trying a long time to make it out, I gave it up and possessed my soul in patience. A few hours would bring the ending of the riddle, and the incident was so far useful that it helped to divert my thoughts from the tragedy which I had just witnessed, and which redoubled my desire to get out of a country where such things were possible.

By the time I reached my quarters Lacluse was sitting down to second breakfast. He invited me, politely enough, to join him; but I was not in the best of tempers, and the indifference with which he heard of De Gex's execution and the dirty trick played me by Barras increased my irritation.

"A man's life counts for very little in these times," said the captain, dispiritedly, "and if you had seen as many men killed as I have you would not be so much affected by a single execution."

"I have seen men killed, and I have killed a few myself—in my fight. I never saw a man killed who should have been spared."

"Murdered! Do you know what you are saying?"

"Certainly, and I repeat it. De Gex was murdered," I answered, doggedly.

"You are a brave man, and I commend the firing party, is a murderer, and in making this charge you insult, in his person, the whole French army."

"I have no desire to insult either Lieut. Forget or the French army; but what I have said I have said."

"I do."

"Perhaps you will also refuse to give satisfaction for uttering a base slander," said Lacluse, who was now white with rage.

"It is no slander; and I am ready and willing to give you any satisfaction you may desire."

"Good! But, as it is Lieut. Forget whom you have maligned, it is to him, not to me, that you will have to answer. Moreover, as you are my guest, it would not be become ill-faite for me to call you out. Afterwards, if you like, I will answer to you or any other man, M. le Capitaine."

"Good again, M. Roy! I can appreciate courage even in a foe, though I hope you will soon cease to be a foe. Now that we have settled this little affair, so far as we are concerned, let us finish our breakfast. Have you seen the Monitor this morning?"

"No. Why do you ask?"

"Here is something which may interest you. Whereupon he took the paper and read a paragraph to the effect that the expedition for the invasion of England, which had been expected to be pushed forward, and that Gen. Bonaparte would leave Paris on the following day for an inspection of the coast, and a visit to Antwerp, Dunkirk, Ambleteuse, Wabecq, and Boulogne, where he would review the army of invasion."

By this time I was somewhat cooled down, and so checked the answer which rose to my lips, merely asking Lacluse whether he thought the project of invasion was serious.

"Why not? England has neither an army nor a navy."

"Well, she has a fleet and an admiral. But we shall have to outnumber her admiral and destroy his fleet. Voilà tout."

"I quite concede that when you have the fleet the rest will be easy. How soon is it likely to take place, M. le Capitaine?"

"Ma foi! I am unable to tell you, and, to say the truth, the Monitor is in error. An expedition is being prepared, but its destination is not England."

"Where then?"

"I am not at liberty to say. But I hope you will have an important command in the fleet, which, I may inform you in confidence, will be one of the finest France ever sent to sea."

Not feeling disposed to reciprocate M. Lacluse's confidence, I turned to my query by changing the subject, and he presently became so merry that I began to think he had not been in earnest, and that there would be no duel, after all.

When we had drunk our coffee and smoked our cigars the captain said to me: "I am going to the office, which would occupy him for the remainder of the day, and asked me to sup with him and two or three of his comrades at the Trois Freres Provençaux."

As the time he mentioned (nine o'clock) would not be long, I went with him. I accepted the invitation "with much pleasure." I was quite willing to fight; but, if it pleased him to let matters rest as they were, it was not for me to complain. I had stood to my guns, and no man can do more.

So soon as he was gone I turned in for a couple of hours, to make up my arrears of sleep, then strolled about the streets for awhile, and towards sunset betook myself to the Tuileries gardens, where I was not long in finding Mlle. Carmine, though she was so closely veiled that she had not spoken first. I should have failed to recognize her.

"Let us walk on," she said, taking my arm. "You are surprised at my asking you to come here."

"Frankly, I was—just a little. All the same—"

"Listen, sir! I can stay with you only a few minutes. I want to tell you that you are under surveillance and in danger."

## MISSOURI AT THE FAIR.

What is Being Done to Represent the State at Chicago.

Under Intelligent Supervision Every Resource of Missouri Will Be Intelligently and Artistically Shown to the World.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 12.—Missouri is preparing to astonish the world with the display of her natural endowments at the Columbian exposition in 1893. In that material wealth which constitutes the sinews of civilization she will rival the richest of her sister states and challenge the resources of foreign nations.

Nature was in prodigal mood when Missouri was made, but circumstances have conspired to keep the knowledge of this from people far away. In the searching light of the Columbian exposition, where citizens of the hemispheres will jostle elbows, the state will be advertised to all the earth, and the natural products of Missouri will secure for her a lasting and widespread reputation.

These are not idle words. They are prompted by the knowledge of what Missouri's exhibit will be, and it is the object of this article to demonstrate their truth. Occasional proof will not be wanting later. Just at present it may be said that the state's exhibit will be a statement of facts drawn from personal observation and from official information of what has been actually done.

At the outset, three illustrations of Missouri's eminence and dignity and their authoritative recognition are offered:

In the Mines and Mining building two main ideas intersect at the center of the structure, forming four conspicuous and most desirable corners; Missouri has been allotted one of these; the other three fall to her distinguished competitors—Great Britain, Germany and Michigan.

In the Agricultural building the largest space assigned to any state in the Union, and also one of the most coveted, has been reserved for Missouri.

In the Horticultural building Executive Commissioner Gwynn was permitted to select the space for Missouri's exhibit, and it is needless to say that he made the most of his opportunity.

This flattering recognition of Missouri by the exposition management was, of course, obtained through positive information of what the state was prepared to do. Such things do not go by favor. Naturally, the heads of departments of the World's fair do not propose to be humiliated by the improper or inadequate uses of the spaces set apart for the different states, and it goes without saying that the most desirable locations are awarded strictly in reference to the known ability of the exhibitors to justify the official judgment and discretion.

It will be remembered that the general assembly, on the recommendation of Gov. Francis, passed an act creating the state board of managers for Missouri, and appointing their number to be spent in collecting and arranging suitable exhibits. In making this recommendation Gov. Francis was mindful of the good work accomplished by the Southwest Missouri Immigration society, organized in February, 1887, and in this country has done more for the exhibitors to justify the official judgment and discretion.

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In the rooms were carefully arranged specimens of all kinds of grain, grasses and forage plants raised in Missouri, besides many varieties of threshed grains and seeds. "These specimens," explained the commissioner, "were all collected and cured by experts. With the beginning of the harvest in the spring, practical botanists were put to work gathering and preparing them in such manner as to show to the best possible advantage, many of them retaining the exact color of the product when harvested."

In the collection was noted a number of grasses not raised in the state in commercial way at all. These, the commissioner explained, were produced especially for this occasion in order to show the productive versatility of Missouri soil. Among other things the collection embraces 124 varieties of wheat, both in the straw and threshed, and over 200 varieties of native and cultivated grasses, all of very fine and well prepared. The collection of timothy is pronounced by competent authorities the best ever seen. There are some 40 varieties of Indian corn, nearly as many of sorghum, and over 30 varieties of sweet corn. While Missouri does not rank high as a tobacco-producing state, the commission will demonstrate beyond doubt, by displaying over thirty varieties of the weed, the adaptability of Missouri soil to its production. Hemp, flax, cotton, broom-corn and castor beans are conspicuous among the collection, and all give evidence of having been selected by an expert.

The products stored at Columbia were raised on the state agricultural farm under the direction of Dr. Edward Porter, dean of the agricultural college, and director of the national agricultural experiment station for the state of Missouri. He has taken a deep and enthusiastic interest in this display, and though the season at the outset was very unfavorable, yet he succeeded admirably with a large number of specialties that he has prepared especially for the World's fair. There have been many valuable contributions from individual farmers throughout the state, and they are still coming in. In fact but a very small portion of the corn contributed by country individuals has yet been received.

Referring to the quantity of these specimens the commissioner said: "I may as well explain that we have three

or four times as much stuff as we will have room to exhibit, but beginning immediately this entire collection will be gone over. That is to say, skilled workmen will be employed to select the finest and best straws from each bundle, stripping the leaves carefully and tying the straws in artistic bundles of 2½ or 3 inches in diameter. A great deal of the fine grain and grasses that you see will be used by our artists in working out various designs."

Mr. William Bouche, who has charge of this work, is a professional landscaper, gardener, graduated from the highest schools of training in Germany. He was for five years in the imperial gardens at Potsdam; later chief floral decorator in the crystal palace, London, and in this country has done some very high-class work at various exhibitions, receiving a gold medal and diploma at the World's fair in New Orleans. He is unquestionably one of the most skillful men in America in the manipulation of flowers. He can produce in grains and grasses almost any beast, bird or reptile in existence, and can construct architectural designs of any kind with like material.

HORTICULTURE. In the department of horticulture preparations were begun with the ripening of strawberries in southern Missouri in the early spring, and have been carried on steadily to the present time, the collection embracing all kinds of fruits and vegetables raised in the state. The World's fair opens before the fruits of 1893 begin to ripen, and hence the necessity of preparing specimens of the fruit crop of 1892 for exhibition. For this purpose the state provided 1,000 glass jars of artistic design, ranging in size from 1½ inches in diameter and 6 inches in height to 9 inches in diameter and 36 inches high. The fruits have been preserved in these jars in anti-septic fluids with the most pronounced effect. The purpose of the Main state building is a large assortment of fruits, including strawberries, raspberries, cherries, peaches, gooseberries, apricots, nectarines, quinces, pears and grapes, and a large collection of fine vegetables. These form a most attractive exhibit. The specimens all look as fresh and natural as if just gathered, and as evidence that their condition would remain unimpaired, the commissioner exhibited specimens that have been preserved in the same process for eight years.

The collection of peaches is stored at Olden. It is said to be a very high order, and was mostly obtained from the Olden fruit farm, which contains the finest peach orchards in the world. A feature of the horticultural exhibit will be a bird's-eye view of this farm from a high vantage point. The view consists of a painting done in oil by a skilled artist at the urgent request of J. M. Samuels, chief of the department of horticulture of the World's Columbian exposition. Still another feature of this exhibit will be a magnificent collection of palms and other tropical plants from Shaw's garden at the green houses and conservatories of St. Louis. Groups of palms, banana trees, cacti and other fine plants will be interspersed through the fruit exhibit as

an agreeable effect and to relieve the monotony.

The herbarium exhibit, which is classified under the department of horticulture, is now prepared and ready for shipment. It consists of 2,010 Missouri plants, or about 400 more than is credited to the state by the latest authority on Missouri botany—showing that some original work has been done by the collectors.

There will also be an outdoor exhibit, in which specimens of the native flora of the state will be presented to the best possible advantage. The nurserymen generally have signified their willingness to contribute to the success of the enterprise, and a large amount of the suitable kind of stock is now being prepared for shipment. Other displays in the horticultural building will include an exhaustive exhibit of dried, evaporated and candied fruits, and a fine exhibit of native wines, already arranged and now ready for shipment.

## LIVE STOCK.

The wonderful grass-growing qualities of the state attracted at an early day the attention of stockmen, and Missouri now ranks very high in livestock production—not only a producer of ordinary beef cattle, but as fostering some of the most famous herds in the world. This is especially true of shorthorn, Aberdeen and Jersey cattle. Missouri is also becoming famous for fine horses of all kinds, especially for saddle horses, and the breeding of draught and roting horses, and the state is well known to be one of the great mule-breeding centers of the world. Berkshire and Poland China swine are bred with great success, and in the matter of sheep Missouri has within her borders the finest flock of Merinos in the United States. There has been set aside \$20,000 by the Missouri World's fair commission to be given in premiums to Missouri livestock exclusively, in addition to any national awards or World's fair prizes that they may capture.

## MINES AND MINING.

The mineral endowment of Missouri has been little understood and less appreciated until quite recently. Few states, if any, have more valuable or more extensive deposits of minerals of commercial value than Missouri has. Among them may be mentioned iron, zinc, lead, coal, copper, baryta and clays and shales of many varieties. Also inexhaustible quantities and a great variety of granite, onyx, marble, sandstone, limestone and building stone, specimens of which have been gathered and are now in readiness for



Missouri State Building.

shipment at any time. There are about sixty boxes of the smaller specimens of these minerals now in the warehouses of the commission, but the largest specimens will be shipped directly from the mines to Chicago, thus saving the expense of rehandling